



Gatherers in the Kingdom For Leaders and Councils

“And they shall be gathered into the garner, that they are not wasted.” Alma 26:5



Explain to council members that you are going to counsel together about what it means to be a gatherer in Heavenly Father’s kingdom. Each person plays an essential role in gathering his or her family on both sides of the veil. In doing so, each person plays a part in the plan of salvation. As leaders and teachers we also need to help others do these things as well. Use this outline to guide your discussion.

You can download the videos used throughout this outline before meeting with council members.

1. Video

Prepare to show the video “[Making a Sacrifice of Time](#).” Ask class members to listen for an answer to the following question as they watch:
What is President Nelson inviting us to do?

2. Discussion

What is President Nelson inviting us to do?
(He has asked members to sacrifice their time to work on family history and temple work.)

3. Video

Prepare to show the video “[Gatherers in the Kingdom](#).” Ask class members to ponder the following as they watch: **What does President Nelson mean when he says, “We are His covenant children. He can count on us”?** Keep this question in mind as we watch the next short video clip. Elder Bradley D. Foster of the Seventy provides a perspective on President Nelson’s observation.

4. Discussion

What does President Nelson mean when he says, “We are His covenant children. He can count on us”?

Discuss the teachings from Elder Foster in the video regarding our role as children of the covenant.

What is our personal role in gathering our families on both sides of the veil? What do we each need to do personally?

Answers may include:

- Temple and family history work allows each of us to play a role in the plan of salvation for all God’s children.
- As members of the Church, first we must act for ourselves, find the names of our ancestors, take those names to the temple receive the ordinances offered there, and teach others to do the same.
- We need to gather our own families to the temple.

5. Key Principles

Gathering: A Family Responsibility

Review the graphic below.

- We and our families are the gatherers in Heavenly Father's plan.
- The primary gathering place is the home, where family members learn and share memories of their family and record that information in the Family Tree on paper or online. With or without technology, the ultimate family history center is in the home.
- Once gathered in the Family Tree, family members can then be safely gathered into the covenants and ordinances of the temple.
- We start by identifying family members in our first 4 generations.

Did you know that only 25% of members of the Church worldwide have the names of all of their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents in the Family Tree?

And did you know that only 2% of recent converts worldwide have the names of these same family members in the Family Tree?

That means there are over 100 million people of the first 4 generations of the families of the Church not yet gathered in. That equates to over ½ billion ordinances waiting to be performed.

In order to act on our divinely appointed responsibility, we should consider 2 immediate invitations:

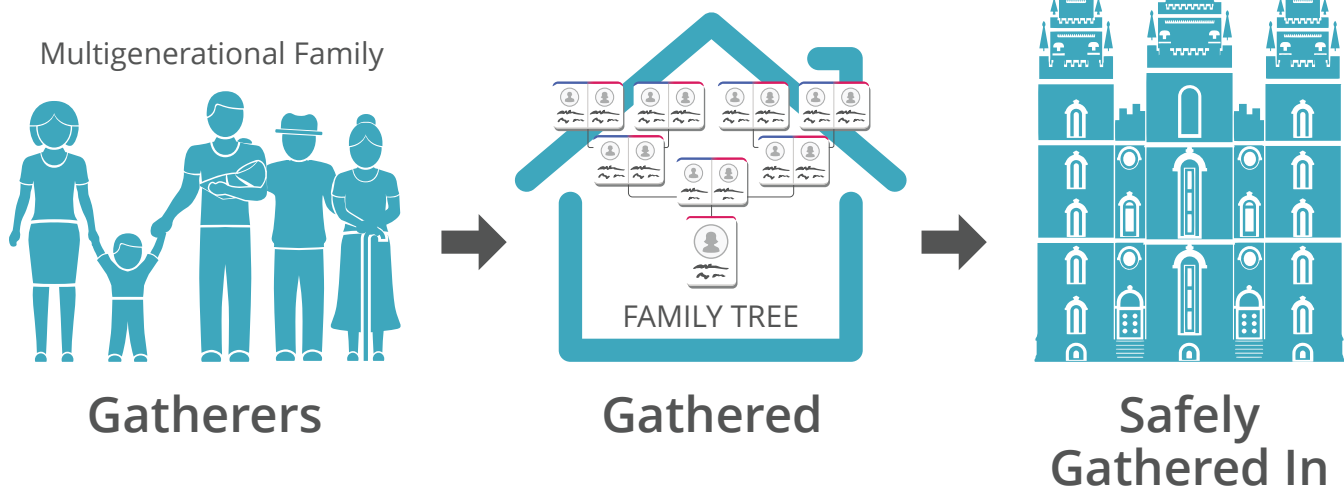
1. For those members, including new converts, who do not have their first 4 generations recorded—seek to complete them in the Family Tree, and, where possible, take them to the temple.

How could we in this council extend this invitation? How can we help those we serve to do this? How might temple and family history work particularly bless those who are new to our faith?

2. For those who have completed their first 4 generations—continue finding more family members, including cousins.

6. Video

Prepare to show the video "[We are the Lord's Agents.](#)" Ask council members to ponder the following question as they watch: **How can we as teachers and leaders further help members safely gather in Heavenly Father's children?**



7. Discussion

How can we as teachers and leaders further help members safely gather in Heavenly Father’s children?

You will notice that Elder Cook said temple and family history consultants.

Why do you think the First Presidency made this name change? What does it mean to you?

The primary responsibility of all temple and family history consultants is to help others learn how to follow the Spirit and focus on the temple as they find their ancestors, take them to the temple, and teach others to do the same. This should be done through one-on-one personalized experiences.

Focusing on these responsibilities should take our temple and family history efforts from good efforts to the best efforts.

Temple and Family History Consultants

From _____ To _____

Technical and Clerical	➔	Spiritual
Class or Group	➔	Individuals and Families
One-time	➔	Ongoing

What are some of the blessings that await those who accept this invitation?

Emphasize that this work is not about the number of family members found as much as it is about finding individuals and ensuring all of their work is done.

8. Video

Prepare to show the video “[Promised Blessings of Family History](#).” Ask council members: **Which of these blessings would you like for yourself and for those you serve?**

9. Discussion

Which of these blessings would you like for yourself and for those you serve?

What will you now do to teach and organize in order to receive the blessings of temple and family history work?

Invite consultants to share how they will apply what they have learned. Where time permits invite participants to share personal experiences participating in temple and family history work.

10. Conclusion

You may want to end the lesson by touching on a key principle or idea that impressed you during the discussion. Share your testimony of how temple and family history work blesses individuals and families.